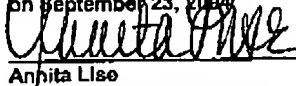


**CERTIFICATE OF FAX TRANSMISSION**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to Commissioner for Patents, Alexandria, Virginia 22313, Attn: Examiner Joseph P. Hirl at Fax no. 703-746-7239 on September 23, 2004.



Anrita Lise  
Dated: September 23, 2004

Patent  
Docket No. : H26-073 US  
Firm : Notaro & Michalos P.C.  
Fax No. : 845-359-7798

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SEP 23 2004

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant : R. SUBBU et al.  
Application No. : 09/971,972  
Filing Date : October 5, 2001  
Examiner : J. P. Hirl  
Art Unit : 2121  
For : METHOD FOR NETWORK-EFFICIENT DISTRIBUTED  
SEARCH AND DECISION-MAKING USING CO-  
EVOLUTIONARY ALGORITHMS EXECUTING IN A  
DISTRIBUTED MULTI-AGENT ARCHITECTURE

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Attn: Examiner Joseph P. HIRL- Via Fax 1-703-746-7239

**AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.116  
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE - GROUP ART UNIT 2121 AND  
REQUEST FOR THREE MONTH EXTENSION OF TIME AND RCE**

Sir:

Applicants hereby request, under 37 C.F.R. 1.136(a), a three (3) month extension of time within which to respond to the outstanding final Official Action dated March 29, 2004; that is, up to and including September 29, 2004.

A request for a one month extension of time has been previously filed, along with the official fee of \$55.00.

For this purpose, the Commissioner is authorized to charge our Deposit Account No. 14-1431 in the amount of **\$420.00** for the official fee (less \$55.00 for fee previously paid for a one month extension of time), as required by 37 C.F.R. 1.17(a)(3), reduced by half for applicant's Small Entity status, in addition to the official fee of **\$385.00** for filing the attached Request for Continued Examination (RCE), based on Small Entity status.

The Commissioner is further authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 14-1431 for any additional fees which may be due under 37 C.F.R. 1.16 or 1.17.

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In further response to the final Official Action dated March 29, 2004, please amend the above-identified application, as follows: